

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A user interface operable to create, on a display device, a window ~~for~~ displaying a plurality of menu editor items for user selection, said menu editor items comprising:

a sequence editor item ~~for creating that creates a~~ an RF pulse sequence from at least one value; and

a sequence tailor editor item configured for user interaction with a graphical representation of a selected pulse sequence, wherein during said user interaction, the selected pulse sequence is graphically displayed to the user,

said user interaction including dynamic, non-standard and on-the-fly manipulation of, and modification to, said graphical representation of said selected pulse sequence that is currently undergoing user interaction with real time visual feedback of the interaction on the manipulated pulse sequence to the user, and

wherein said menu editor items further comprise a an MRI scan setting menu editor item configured for initiation of a magnetic resonance imaging scan.

2. (Original) The user interface in accordance with claim 1, wherein said sequence tailor editor item is activated in response to user selection.

3. (Currently Amended) The user interface in accordance with claim 1, wherein user selection of said sequence editor item activates a display of at least one sequence parameter ~~for operative in~~ creating said pulse sequence, said at least one sequence parameter being operable to accept a default value.

4. (Original) The user interface in accordance with claim 3, wherein said at least one sequence parameter is operable to accept a user entered value.

Amendment

Response to OA dated September 14, 2005

5. (Currently Amended) The user interface in accordance with claim 3, wherein said at least one sequence parameter is selected from the group consisting of: a gradient resolution parameter, a radio frequency pulse resolution parameter, a an echo gathering time parameter, a sequence name parameter, at least one gradient motion compensation parameter, at least one radio frequency pulse characteristic parameter, and at least one data acquisition parameter.

6. (Original) The user interface in accordance with claim 3, wherein acceptance, by the user interface, of the at least one sequence parameter activates said sequence tailor editor item.

7. (Original) The user interface in accordance with claim 1, wherein activation of said sequence tailor editor item activates display of said pulse sequence and at least one control feature.

8. (Original) The user interface in accordance with claim 7, wherein said at least one control feature comprises at least one of a control section, a shape editor, a block editor, and a time scaler.

9. (Currently Amended) The user interface in accordance with claim 8, wherein said shape editor, when activated, is operable to modify at least one radio frequency pulse characteristic parameter and the radio frequency pulse shape associated with said selected pulse sequence which is displayed to the user.

10. (Currently Amended) The user interface in accordance with claim 8, wherein said time scaler, when activated, displays at least one vertical line through the graphically displayed selected pulse sequence for assisting in order to assist the user in analysis of timing relationships of the pulse sequence.

11. (Original) The user interface in accordance with claim 1, wherein said graphical representation within said window on said display device is divided into a plurality

of portions.

12. (Original) The user interface in accordance with claim 11, wherein said plurality of portions comprises at least one of a radio frequency pulse characteristics graph, a slice select gradient graph, a signal acquisition graph, and a phase encoding graph.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended) The user interface in accordance with claim ~~13~~ 1, wherein selection of said MRI scan setting menu editor item displays at least one type of MRI scan to perform.

15. (Currently Amended) The user interface in accordance with claim 14, wherein said at least one type of MRI scan comprises at least one MRI scan selected from the group consisting of: a two dimensional scan, a combination scan, a three dimensional scan, a three dimensional combination scan, a two dimensional fast spin echo scan, and combinations thereof.

16. (Currently Amended) The user interface in accordance with claim 14, wherein said type of MRI scan, when activated, displays at least one setting of an imaging parameter, said setting of the imaging parameter being operable to accept at least one default value.

17. (Currently Amended) The user interface in accordance with claim 16, wherein said at least one setting of an imaging parameter is operable to accept at least one user-entered value.

18. (Currently Amended) The user interface in accordance with claim 16, wherein said at least one setting of an imaging parameter is selected from the group consisting of: a number of slices parameter, a slice thickness parameter, a sequence repetition parameter, a number of phase encoding levels parameter, a discrete Fourier transform size parameter, a polarity flipping parameter, and combinations thereof.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for creation and customization of pulse sequences, said method comprising the steps of:

creating a window on a display device, for said window displaying a plurality of menu editor items for user selection;

displaying a sequence editor item for operative in creating a an RF pulse sequence from at least one of user-entered values and default values;

displaying a sequence tailor editor item for in order to assist user interaction with a graphical representation of a selected pulse sequence; and

displaying, graphically, said pulse sequence to the user,

said user interaction including dynamic, non-standard and on-the-fly manipulation of, and modification to, said graphical representation of said selected pulse sequence that is currently undergoing user interaction with real time visual feedback of the interaction on the manipulated pulse sequence to the user, and

wherein said method further comprising the steps of:

initiating a magnetic resonance imaging scan by activating a scan setting menu editor item within said window on said display device; and

displaying at least one setting of an imaging parameter.

20. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 19, wherein said creating step further comprises the step of:

displaying a scan setting menu editor item configured for initiation of a magnetic resonance imaging scan.

21. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 20, wherein, upon initiation of said magnetic resonance imaging scan, said method further comprises the step of:

initiating at least one of a two dimensional scan, a two dimensional combination scan, a three dimensional scan, a three dimensional combination scan, and a two dimensional fast spin echo scan.

22. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 19, further comprising the step of:

dividing said graphical representation within said window on said display device into a plurality of portions.

23. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said step of dividing further comprises the step of dividing said graphical representation into at least one of a radio frequency pulse characteristics graph, a slice select gradient graph, a signal acquisition graph, and a phase encoding graph.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 19, said method further comprising the steps of:

displaying, in response to selection of said sequence editor item, at least one sequence parameter ~~for creating that creates~~ said pulse sequence; and

accepting, by said at least one sequence parameter, at least one of said default values.

26. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 25, wherein said step of accepting further comprises the step of:

accepting, by said at least one sequence parameter, at least one of said user-entered values.

27. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 26, wherein said step of displaying said at least one sequence parameter further comprises the step of:

displaying at least one additional parameter, said additional parameter selected from the group consisting of:

a gradient resolution parameter, a radio frequency pulse resolution parameter, an echo gathering time parameter, a sequence name parameter, a plurality of gradient motion compensation parameters, a plurality of radio frequency pulse parameters, and a plurality of data acquisition parameters.

28. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 26, said method further comprising the step of:

activating said sequence tailor editor item by at least one of user selection and a response to said step of accepting of said at least one sequence parameter by a user interface.

29. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 28, said method further comprising the step of:

displaying the selected one of said pulse sequences and at least one control feature for at least one of plot modification and plot enhancement.

30. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 29, wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of:

displaying at least one of a control section, a shape editor, a block editor, and a time scaler.

31. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 30, wherein said step of displaying at least one of a control section, a shape editor, a block editor, and a time scaler further comprises the steps of:

activating said shape editor; and

modifying at least one of the radio frequency pulse characteristic parameters and the radio frequency pulse shape associated with said pulse sequence.

32. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 30, wherein said step of displaying at least one of a control section, a shape editor, a block editor, and a time scaler further comprises the steps of:

activating said time scaler; and

displaying at least one vertical line through the graphically displayed pulse sequence ~~for assisting in order to assist~~ the user in analysis of timing relations of the pulse sequence.

33. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 30, wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of:

displaying at least one of a number of slices parameter, a slice thickness parameter, a sequence repetition parameter, a number of phase encoding levels parameter, a discrete Fourier transform size parameter, and a polarity flipping parameter.

34 - 70. (Canceled)